

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT  
9/29/23

**BILL 5**

LLS NO. 24-0277.02 Alana Rosen x2606

**INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL**

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**Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons  
with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice  
Systems**

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**BILL TOPIC:** Crisis Resolution Team Program  
**DEADLINES:** File by: 10/3/2023

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING EXPANDING A PROGRAM TO CONTINUE RESPONDING TO**  
102 **YOUTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)*

**Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning the Treatment of Persons with Behavioral Health Disorders in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems.** Current law requires the department of human services to create in-home and residential respite care services for children and families. The bill renames in-home and residential respite care services to the crisis resolution team program (program) and expands

*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing law.*

the services provided by the program. The behavioral health administration (BHA) shall administer the program to provide community-based services to de-escalate and stabilize children or youth experiencing high-acuity behavioral health crises. The BHA shall contract with crisis resolution team providers (providers) to provide community-based de-escalation and stabilization services to children or youth.

A child or youth is eligible for services provided by the program if the child or youth:

- Is 21 years of age or younger;
- Has experienced high-acuity behavioral health crises as identified by the behavioral health crisis response system or emergency departments; and
- Is safe to remain in the home or the community while receiving intensive, short-term stabilization interventions.

Providers shall offer the following services to children or youth and their caregivers:

- Counseling or therapy;
- Case management to help meet treatment plans;
- Peer support or family skills coaching to foster connectedness, goal setting, and new routines to achieve positive, lasting change;
- Medication management; and
- Care coordination to provide tailored support and connection.

Providers shall offer services to a child or youth a minimum of 3 days per week with a variety of services offered daily depending on the child's or youth's clinical needs. Services must be offered to the child or youth for a minimum of 4 weeks up to a maximum of 6 weeks depending on the child's or youth's clinical needs.

The BHA shall:

- Maintain existing relationships with community partners;
- Conduct outreach and educate community partners regarding providers' services;
- Provide technical assistance to providers regarding specialized training and the use of screening and assessment tools; and
- Conduct an annual evaluation of the program.

On or before September 1, 2025, the BHA shall submit to the general assembly a feasibility study to determine whether the program can be further expanded statewide.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

1           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 27-60-103, **amend**  
2           (1.5)(a), (1.5)(c)(I), and (6)(a); and **add** (1.5)(a.5), (1.5)(a.7), (1.5)(e),  
3           and (1.5)(f) as follows:

4           **27-60-103. Behavioral health crisis response system - services**  
5           **- request for proposals - crisis resolution team program - criteria -**  
6           **reporting - rules - definitions - repeal.** (1.5) (a) (I) ~~Beginning January~~  
7           ~~1, 2023, the state department shall create in-home and residential respite~~  
8           ~~care services and facilities for children and families in up to seven regions~~  
9           ~~of the state, as determined by the state department and a committee of~~  
10           ~~interested stakeholders~~ THERE IS CREATED IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT THE  
11           CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROGRAM. THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO  
12           PROVIDE COMMUNITY-BASED DE-ESCALATION AND STABILIZATION  
13           SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING HIGH-ACUITY  
14           BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES AND THEIR CAREGIVERS. THE BHA SHALL  
15           ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM AND CONTRACT WITH CRISIS RESOLUTION  
16           TEAM PROVIDERS TO OFFER THE SERVICES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS  
17           (1.5)(a)(IV) AND (1.5)(a)(V) OF THIS SECTION.

18           (II) A CHILD OR YOUTH IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM IF THE  
19           CHILD OR YOUTH:

20           (A) IS TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER;

21           (B) HAS EXPERIENCED HIGH-ACUITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES  
22           AS IDENTIFIED BY THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM OR  
23           AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT; AND

24           (C) IS SAFE TO REMAIN IN THE HOME OR COMMUNITY WHILE  
25           RECEIVING INTENSIVE, SHORT-TERM STABILIZATION INTERVENTIONS.

26           (III) THE CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER SHALL OFFER THE  
27           FOLLOWING SERVICES TO CHILDREN OR YOUTH AND THEIR CAREGIVERS:

- 1 (A) COUNSELING OR THERAPY;
- 2 (B) CASE MANAGEMENT TO SUPPORT CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND
- 3 THEIR CAREGIVERS IN MEETING TREATMENT PLANS;
- 4 (C) PEER SUPPORT OR FAMILY SKILLS COACHING TO FOSTER
- 5 CONNECTEDNESS, GOAL SETTING, AND NEW ROUTINES TO ACHIEVE
- 6 POSITIVE, LASTING CHANGE;
- 7 (D) MEDICATION MANAGEMENT; AND
- 8 (E) CARE COORDINATION TO PROVIDE TAILORED SUPPORT AND
- 9 CONNECTION THROUGH THE USE OF ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES.

10 (IV) THE CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER SHALL OFFER

11 SERVICES TO A CHILD OR YOUTH A MINIMUM OF THREE DAYS PER WEEK

12 WITH A VARIETY OF SERVICES OFFERED DAILY DEPENDING ON THE CHILD'S

13 OR YOUTH'S CLINICAL NEEDS. SERVICES MUST BE OFFERED TO THE CHILD

14 OR YOUTH FOR A MINIMUM OF FOUR WEEKS UP TO A MAXIMUM OF SIX

15 WEEKS DEPENDING ON THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S CLINICAL NEEDS.

16 (a.5) (I) TO CONTRACT WITH THE BHA PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION

17 (1.5)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION, A CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER MUST:

18 (A) PROVIDE SUPPORT AND STABILIZATION SERVICES ACCORDING

19 TO THE TIME FRAMES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1.5)(a)(IV) OF THIS

20 SECTION; AND

21 (B) ENTER INTO COMMUNITY COORDINATION PARTNERSHIPS

22 PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-60-104 (6).

23 (II) CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDERS MAY CO-LOCATE WITHIN

24 THE FACILITY OF A COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION OR PARTNER.

25 (III) CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDERS THAT ENTER INTO A

26 CONTRACT WITH THE BHA PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1.5)(a)(II) OF THIS

27 SECTION SHALL COLLECT DATA AND OUTCOMES ON THE FOLLOWING:

1 (A) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN OR YOUTH SERVED BY THE  
2 PROGRAM, DISAGGREGATED BY GENDER, RACE, GRADE LEVEL, DISABILITY,  
3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER STATUS, AND UNHOUSED STATUS TO THE  
4 MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE "COLORADO  
5 PRIVACY ACT", ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO PART 13 OF ARTICLE 1 OF  
6 TITLE 6;

7 (B) THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT REFER CHILDREN OR YOUTH TO THE  
8 PROGRAM;

9 (C) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN OR YOUTH HOSPITALIZED WHILE  
10 RECEIVING SERVICES FROM THE CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER;

11 (D) THE NUMBER OF REFERRALS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH TO  
12 OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS WHILE RECEIVING SERVICES FROM THE CRISIS  
13 RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER; AND

14 (E) THE NUMBER AND TYPES OF SERVICES AND SUPPORTS THAT  
15 CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND THEIR CAREGIVERS RECEIVE.

16 (a.7) TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM, THE BHA SHALL:

17 (I) USE EXISTING COMMUNITY COORDINATION PARTNERSHIPS  
18 PURSUANT TO SECTION 27-60-104 (6) TO MAINTAIN RELATIONSHIPS WITH  
19 THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

20 (A) LOCAL COMMUNITY MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
21 PROVIDERS;

22 (B) COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES;

23 (C) ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE JUSTICE-INVOLVED CHILDREN OR  
24 YOUTH;

25 (D) SCHOOL DISTRICTS;

26 (E) ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE CHILDREN OR YOUTH WITH  
27 INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES;

- 1 (F) LOCAL HOSPITALS AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS;  
2 (G) LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES; AND  
3 (H) PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS;  
4 (II) CONDUCT OUTREACH AND EDUCATE COMMUNITY PARTNERS  
5 REGARDING CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE  
6 PROGRAM;  
7 (III) PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CRISIS RESOLUTION  
8 TEAM PROVIDERS REGARDING SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND THE USE OF  
9 SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT TOOLS FOR CHILDREN OR YOUTH;  
10 (IV) COLLECT DATA AND OUTCOMES FROM CRISIS RESOLUTION  
11 TEAM PROVIDERS AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1.5)(a.5)(III) OF THIS  
12 SECTION;  
13 (V) CONDUCT, OR CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY EVALUATOR TO  
14 CONDUCT, AN ANNUAL EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM USING THE DATA  
15 AND OUTCOMES COLLECTED FROM CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDERS  
16 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1.5)(a.7)(IV) OF THIS SECTION; AND  
17 (VI) CONDUCT, OR CONTRACT WITH A THIRD-PARTY EVALUATOR  
18 TO CONDUCT, A FEASIBILITY STUDY TO:  
19 (A) DETERMINE HOW TO CONTINUE TO EXPAND THE PROGRAM  
20 STATEWIDE;  
21 (B) IDENTIFY THE NECESSARY TOOLS TO CONTINUE THE EXPANSION  
22 OF THE PROGRAM STATEWIDE; AND  
23 (C) CREATE A PHASED APPROACH TO CONTINUE THE EXPANSION OF  
24 THE PROGRAM.  
25 (c) (I) Beginning in state fiscal year 2023-24, money appropriated  
26 to the state department for the purpose of this subsection (1.5) must  
27 continue the statewide access to crisis system services for children and

1 youth. ~~until June 30, 2026.~~

2 (e) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2025, THE BHA SHALL SUBMIT  
3 THE FEASIBILITY STUDY SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (1.5)(a.7)(VI) OF THIS  
4 SECTION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL  
5 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND  
6 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND  
7 THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE.

8 (f) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (1.5), UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
9 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

10 (I) "CAREGIVER" MEANS A PARENT, FOSTER PARENT, KIN,  
11 GUARDIAN, OR LEGAL CUSTODIAN.

12 (II) "CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROGRAM" OR "PROGRAM" MEANS  
13 THE CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION  
14 (1.5)(a)(I) OF THIS SECTION.

15 (III) "CRISIS RESOLUTION TEAM PROVIDER" MEANS A SERVICE  
16 PROVIDER THAT SUPPORTS CHILDREN OR YOUTH WHO ARE EXPERIENCING  
17 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES AND MAY BENEFIT FROM INTENSIVE,  
18 SHORT-TERM, IN-HOME SERVICES AND ONGOING SUPPORT.

19 (6) (a) (I) Beginning in January 2014, and every January  
20 thereafter, the BHA shall report progress on the implementation of the  
21 crisis response system, as well as information about and updates to the  
22 system, as part of its "State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive,  
23 and Transparent (SMART) Government Act" hearing required by section  
24 2-7-203.

25 (II) BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2025, AND EVERY JANUARY  
26 THEREAFTER, THE BHA SHALL REPORT PROGRESS ON THE CRISIS  
27 RESOLUTION TEAM PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (1.5) OF THIS

1 SECTION AS PART OF ITS "STATE MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE,  
2 RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT" HEARING  
3 REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203.

4 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
5 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
6 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
7 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
8 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
9 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
10 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
11 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
12 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.